



21st Romsey (Nursling & Rownhams) Scout Group

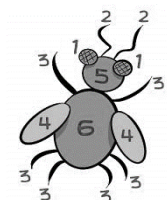


Although Scouting has been around for over 100 years, Beavers, the section for 6 to 8 year-olds, only began in 1986. Over the last year various events took place to commemorate the 30th birthday, including 30 tasks set by the County team – anything from learning some constellations, to meeting Beavers from another District, to planting seeds, to singing 19(!) verses of “Old MacDonald had a Farm”. Congratulations to our Beaver Colonies for successfully completing the challenge.



Our leaders have also been busy: at our AGM last June I set a 12-month target of gaining at least two Wood Badges, signifying completion of the total training requirements pertinent to respective roles. Since then we have already gained six! This reflects the enthusiasm and commitment of the leaders to providing high-quality Scouting for the young people of Nursling and Rownhams.

Besides being great fun, a family Beetle Drive provided opportunity for Bex, our Group Chair, to thank all the volunteers who do sterling work behind the scenes, and to highlight some vacancies. I'm pleased to say that many of them were filled, but we are always looking for more help – either to spread the load or to make the system more robust. If you have skills in finance, fund-raising or fixing things I'd be pleased to hear from you: gsl@21stromsey.co.uk .



On Sunday 13th November a record number of over 60 young people from our Group, plus leaders, attended the annual Remembrance Service at St John's Church. Many thanks to the regular congregation for accommodating us and allowing us to participate in the service. As usual, Julian steered a skilful course, with a service that held the interest of all ages, culminating in the reading of the roll of honour from the two World Wars – so many men killed from, what were then, just two small villages.



Although in his time, Baden-Powell was known for his military prowess – most notably for withstanding the siege of Mafeking in the Boer War, I think he would be pleased that he is now more widely known for starting an organisation that promotes peaceful co-operation between nations. There are currently around 38 million members of Scouting (about the population of Canada), scattered throughout nearly every country, all committed to being part of “the world-wide family of Scouts”. 21st Romsey Scout Group wish every reader a happy, and peaceful, New Year.